

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178078 TOSEC 080090

EXDIS, LUXEMBOURG FOR MOOSE, ISLAMABAD FOR NEWSOM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA
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SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: STATUS OF OUR PLANNING

1. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON
THE STATUS OF OUR INTERNAL PLANNING ON NAMIBIA AND ON OUR
THINKING ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL PHASE OF OUR NAMIBIA
INITIATIVE. THIS MESSAGE, PLUS SUBSEQUENT TELEGRAMS FROM

DEPARTMENT AND FROM USUN ON CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSIONS, WILL SERVE AS BRIEFING MATERIAL FOR THE MEETING OF CONTACT GROUP FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BONN JULY 16 AT 6:00 PM, TO WHICH GENSCHER HAS TODAY INVITED YOU THROUGH FRG EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. TURNING FIRST TO INTERNAL PLANNING, STATE AND DEFENSE ARE DEVELOPING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR OUR ASSISTANCE TO THE UN FOR THE INITIAL UNTAG AIRLIFT. ON AN URGENT BASIS, WE ARE CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR FINANCING OUR CONTRIBUTION. FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS, MILITARY EXPERTS ON THE STAFFS OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S UN MISSIONS, ASSISTED BY PERSONNEL FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND DOD, HAVE BEEN WORKING ON PLANS FOR THE UNTAG OPERATION. THE RESULTS OF THESE EFFORTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME (PROBABLY NEXT WEEK) TO THE UN SECRETARIAT TO AID THE SECRETARIAT IN GEARING UP FOR THE UNTAG DEPLOYMENT. WE

UNDERTOOK THIS WORK WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE SECRETARIAT WAS DOING LITTLE OR NOTHING ON ITS OWN, AS FAR AS THE MILITARY ASPECT IS CONCERNED. WE WISHED TO AVOID A SITUATION IN WHICH A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WE NOW HAVE ACHIEVED, WOULD REQUIRE A VERY HECTIC PLANNING SCHEDULE.

3. THE DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED A DRAFT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AND A DRAFT UNTAG MANDATE BASED ON THE CONTACT
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GROUP PROPOSAL. WE HAVE BEGUN DISCUSSIONS OF THESE PAPERS WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP.

4. AS YOU KNOW FROM PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH DAVID OWEN, HE IS VERY ANXIOUS TO MOVE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE SURMISE THAT OWEN'S MOTIVATION FOR HIS EFFORT TO SPEED THIS PROCESS ALONG IS RELATED IN PART TO THE RHODESIA SITUATION, WHERE HE BELIEVES, AS DO WE, THAT A SUCCESSFUL INITIATION OF THE UN ROLE IN NAMIBIA CAN HAVE A VERY HELPFUL IMPACT. WE UNDERSTAND FROM USUN THAT THE CANADIANS ARE ALSO ANXIOUS TO MOVE RATHER QUICKLY INTO THE COUNCIL. SINCE CANADA IS IN THE CHAIR DURING JULY, THIS MAY WELL REFLECT DON JAMIESON'S DESIRE TO PRESIDE OVER THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CONTACT GROUP INITIATIVE. WE SHARE THE CANADIAN DESIRE TO CONCLUDE THE COUNCIL PHASE OF OUR INITIATIVE DURING JULY; THE CHINESE TAKE OVER ON AUGUST 1, INTRODUCING AN UNPREDICTABLE FACTOR WHICH WE WOULD WISH TO AVOID. SYG WALDHEIM HAS ADVISED US THAT HE PLANS TO BE OUT OF NEW YORK THROUGH THE END OF THE WEEK OF JULY 17, IN DAMASCUS, KHARTOUM (FOR THE OAU SUMMIT) AND JIDDA. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL TAKE UP NAMIBIA JULY 24.

5. THERE IS SOME UNCERTAINTY REGARDING THE AFRICAN VIEW ON THIS MATTER. NUJOMA TOLD DON MCHENRY THAT HE PLANNED TO GO TO THE OAU SUMMIT WHICH OPENS JULY 17, AND THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE FRONT LINE STATES WANT TO OBTAIN OAU BLESSING OF OUR PROPOSAL BEFORE GOING TO THE COUNCIL. HOWEVER, BOTH CHONA AND MKAPA TOLD DON MCHENRY IN LUANDA THAT THEY BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT TO GO TO THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY CLEARLY SHARE OUR CONCERN THAT THE LONGER WE DELAY, THE MORE CHANCE THERE WILL BE FOR SWAPO TO HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT SOME EVENT COULD OCCUR IN NAMIBIA OR ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION WHICH WOULD REOPEN THE ENTIRE QUESTION. WE SUGGEST THAT SHOULD THE

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SUBJECT CAME UP IN BONN DURING YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OTHER CONTACT GROUP FOREIGN MINISTERS, YOU URGE THAT THE

QUESTION OF UN TACTICS BE LEFT TO THE MISSIONS IN NEW YORK. WE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO BEGIN SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA DURING THE WEEK OF JULY 17, BUT NO LATER THAN JULY 24.

6. IN ANY DISCUSSION OF NAMIBIA ON THE FRINGES OF THE BONN SUMMIT, YOU MIGHT WISH TO CONFIRM TO THE OTHER CONTACT GROUP MINISTERS THAT WE ARE PLANNING TO PROVIDE INITIAL AIRLIFT SERVICES FOR UNTAG DEPLOYMENT IN LINE WITH OUR PREVIOUS PRACTICE. YOU MIGHT ENCOURAGE OUR COLLEAGUES TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS THEY CAN TO ENSURE THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THE UN IN THIS MATTER. IN VIEW OF THE PREVIOUS EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST BY THE JAPANESE IN SOME ROLE IN THE CIVILIAN SIDE OF UN OPERATION IN NAMIBIA, YOU COULD USEFULLY POINT OUT TO FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA THE IMPORTANCE WHICH WE ATTACH TO THE SUCCESS OF UNTAG AND OUR HOPE THAT JAPAN WILL MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION. (THE JAPANESE ARE APPARENTLY THINKING IN TERMS OF PROVIDING INTERNAL LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF HELICOPTERS AND AIRCRAFT.) WE WILL BE SENDING INSTRUCTIONS TO EMBASSY TOKYO ASKING THAT THE EMBASSY URGE THE JAPANESE TO EXPEDITE THEIR PLANNING ON A CONTRIBUTION TO UNTAG.

7. FINALLY, THERE IS THE VERY DELICATE MATTER OF INFORMING THE SOUTH AFRICANS OF THE RESULTS OF THE LUANDA NEGOTIATIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE RESOLUTION ON WALVIS BAY. ON THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS, EMBASSY PRETORIA HAS ALREADY GONE TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS

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(BRAND FOURIE), AND URGED THAT THEY MAKE NO STATEMENT UNTIL AFTER THE CONTACT GROUP CAN PRESENT AN AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED IN LUANDA. THE UK MADE A SIMILAR APPROACH. FOURIE SAID THAT HE FULLY AGREED WITH THIS VIEW. DON MCHENRY AND HIS COLLEAGUES ARE MEETING THURSDAY AFTERNOON IN NEW YORK TO DEVELOP TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH THE SAG.

8. TAKING EVERYTHING INTO ACCOUNT, OUR BEST GUESS IS THAT EVENTS WILL UNFOLD IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE:

A) JULY 16-17, PRESENTATION TO SAG.

B) WEEK OF JULY 17, AGREEMENT WITH FRONT LINE, SWAPO AND OTHER SC MEMBERS ON DATE OF SC MEETING. DURING THAT SAME PERIOD, WE WILL WORK WITH SECRETARIAT ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF UNTAG.

C) JULY 24, SC ADOPTS RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSAL AND ASKING WALDHEIM TO SUBMIT HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING IT. SC ADOPTS WALVIS BAY RESOLUTION.

D) WALDHEIM SENDS SURVEY TEAM TO WINDOEK/ PRETORIA. PROCESS MIGHT TAKE UP TO 10 DAYS (A PERIOD WHICH MIGHT BE SHORTENED IF WE CAN PERSUADE SAG TO SEND MILITARY AND CIVILIAN EXPERTS TO NEW YORK FOR TALKS WITH THE UN).

E) AUGUST 7, WALDHEIM SUBMITS DRAFT MANDATE TO SC, WHICH APPROVES IT AUGUST 8.

F) AUGUST 11, FIRST UN CONTINGENT ARRIVES WINDHOEK.

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